

Agency Coordination Effort Meeting

June 9, 2016

Environmental Summary I-73

Project Summary

- The purpose of the project is to construct a new interstate highway from I-73/74 near Hamlet North Carolina to SC 22 in Horry County South Carolina
- The project is divided into two sections; the North Section extends 37 miles from I-73/74 near Hamlet North Carolina, to I-95.
- The Southern Section extends from I-95 to SC 22.
- Right of Way acquisition is in progress from I-95 to the Marion County line.
- The schedule for project letting/construction has not been determined.

Jurisdictional Determination

A jurisdictional determination for this project was approved on September 24, 2014.

NEPA/Permitting

- A US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Section 404 permit application was submitted on January 28, 2011, for authorization to impact approximately 342 acres of wetlands and 4,174 linear feet of stream.
- SCDOT plans to submit an updated permit package to USACE later this month.
- The updated package will include revised permit drawings, updated hydrology information, a response to the 404b comments received for the original application, a final mitigation plan, documentation of agency coordination, and other project information.
- A separate EIS was done for each section of the project. A record of decision (ROD) was signed for the North Section on August 6, 2008, and the ROD for the South Section was signed on February 8, 2008.
- SCDOT is currently in contract negotiations for a NEPA re-evaluation.

Mitigation

- The Final I-73 Compensatory Mitigation Plan was submitted to the Corps on May 19, 2016.
- The plan consists of the purchase of the Gunter's Island Tract to incorporate into the SCDNR Heritage Trust Program.
- The plan will protect 89,836 linear feet of stream, 4,583 acres of wetlands, and 11 miles of river frontage on the Little Pee Dee River.
- The land-scape scale plan will preserve and enhance ecological resources within the 6,134 acre Gunter's Island Tract.

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• The Gunter's Island Tract was selected as mitigation for the I-73 project through coordination with SCDNR.

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Figures













